







The Dublin Grand Opera Society

presents

**THE WILLIAM O'KELLY
MEMORIAL CONCERT**

at

The National Concert Hall

on

Tuesday 21st December, 1982

at 8 p.m.



Lt. Col. Bill O'Kelly

Lt. Col. Bill O'Kelly, Chairman of the D.G.O.S. for 38 years, died on 7th November 1979. His death ended an era of opera in Ireland which began when he and other music lovers founded the Dublin Grand Opera Society in 1941.

In the years that followed he brought to the stage of the Gaiety many well-known operatic names. He also brought many unknown singers, some of whom were later to achieve world fame. One such performer surely stands apart from all others — Luciano Pavarotti.

Pavarotti was first invited here to sing in *Rigoletto* in 1963. He returned to Dublin in 1964 for *La Traviata* and *La Bohème*. A bond of mutual friendship and respect developed between the late Bill O'Kelly and Luciano Pavarotti.

Pavarotti returned in 1979 to give two recitals. He stated that he regarded these performances as a gesture of friendship to Lt. Col. O'Kelly and dedicated them to his memory as unfortunately "The Col." had taken his last salute just six weeks earlier.

It was these recitals in 1979 that prompted the idea of a Bill O'Kelly Memorial Concert. The first took place the following year at the R.D.S. and we were delighted to secure the internationally known tenor José Carreras. The National Concert Hall brought a change of venue for the 1981 concert, with the enchanting voice of the lovely soprano Montserrat Caballé.

The format of this year's concert would surely please the late Bill O'Kelly. It was his policy to include Irish artists in operatic performances whenever suitable roles were available. The Society happily presents this year a cast that is entirely Irish. These artists have the backing of the Dublin Grand Opera Society Chorus and the R.T.E. Concert Orchestra.

Bill O'Kelly was very proud of his chorus and paid them many tributes. The chorus of the D.G.O.S. are very proud to present their own special tribute to his memory.

Progr

1. Chorus
Opening Chorus *The Bartered Bride* — Smetana
2. Frank O'Brien
Credo *Otello* — Verdi
3. Marie Claire O'Reirdan
Song to the Moon *Rusalka* — Dvorak
4. Mary Sheridan, Peter McBrien
Bess you is my woman now *Porgy & Bess* — Gershwin
5. Chorus
Pilgrims' Chorus *I Lombardi* — Verdi
6. Anna Caleb
Air des lettres *Werther* — Massenet
7. Brendan Cavanagh, Frank O'Brien
Au fond du temple saint *The Pearl Fishers* — Bizet
8. Anna Caleb, William Young
Papageno/Papagena Duet *The Magic Flute* — Mozart
9. Brendan Cavanagh, Mary Sheridan, Peter McBrien
Trio *Faust* — Gounod

R.T.E. CONCEP
(By kind permission)

Conductor: PROINNSÍAS Ó DU

Interval 2

A warning gong will be sounded

amme

10. Chorus
Waltz *Faust — Gounod*
11. Mary Sheridan
Io son l'umile ancella *Adriana Lecouvreur — Cilea*
12. Marie Claire O'Reirdan, Frank O'Brien
La ci da rem *Don Giovanni — Mozart*
13. William Young
Avant de quitter *Faust — Gounod*
14. Chorus
Humming Chorus *Madam Butterfly — Puccini*
15. Peter McBrien
Prince Igor's aria *Prince Igor — Borodin*
16. Marie Claire O'Reirdan, Anna Caleb, William Young
Trio — soave il vento *Così fan tutte — Mozart*
17. Mary Sheridan, Brendan Cavanagh
Drinking Song *La Traviata — Verdi*
18. Chorus
Va pensiero *Nabucco — Verdi*

RT ORCHESTRA
(of the RTE Authority)

INN Compere: IAN FOX

0 minutes

5 minutes before end of interval.

Artists



ANNA CALEB
Mezzo-Soprano



MARY SHERIDAN
Soprano



**BRENDAN
CAVANAGH**
Tenor



**MARIE CLAIRE
O'REIRDAN**
Soprano



PETER MCBRIEN
Baritone



FRANK O'BRIEN
Baritone



WILLIAM YOUNG
Bass-Baritone



PROINNSÍAS Ó DUINN
Conductor



JOHN BRADY
Chorus Master



IAN FOX
Compere

PERFORMING MEMBERS OF D.G.O.S.

Ladies

Eileen Byrne
Stella Byrne
Adrienne Carroll
Kay Chamartin
Monica Condron
Anne Deegan
Adrienne Doyle
Katheryn Fitzgerald
Ursula Fowler
Pat Galloway
Marian Kavanagh
Dorothy Kenny
Maureen McDonnell

Pauline McHugh
Margaret McIntyre
Marie Mackey
Alice Moffat
Sheila Moloney
Maura Mooney
Mary Moriarty
Aine O'Neill
Pat O'Toole
Joan Rooney
Norrie Stanley
Mary Troy
Sylvia Whelan

Gentlemen

John P. Brady
Paddy Brennan
Tony Byrne
John Carney
Tom Carney
Derek Carroll
Brendan Cullen
Paddy Delaney
Charles Dunphy
Robert Hammond
Paul Kavanagh
Sean Kelly
Fred McQuillan
Noel O'Callaghan
Liam O'Kelly
Jim Price

*We wish to thank
P. J. Carroll & Co. Ltd.
most sincerely
for sponsoring this
Souvenir Programme*

